

Claims

What is claimed is:

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1. A method for tracking an object of interest using a camera
associated with a hand-held processing device, the method comprising
5 the steps of:

detecting relative movement between the hand-held device and
the object of interest; and

adjusting at least one setting of the camera so as to
maintain a desired framing of the object of interest within an image
10 generated by the camera.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the camera is integrated into
the hand-held device.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the camera is part of a module
insertable into the hand-held device.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the camera comprises a
physically adjustable camera.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the camera comprises an
electronically adjustable camera.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the camera has one or more of an
adjustable pan setting, an adjustable tilt setting, and an adjustable
zoom setting.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the hand-held device comprises
a mobile telephone.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the hand-held device comprises
a personal digital assistant (PDA).

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the hand-held device comprises a portable computer.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the camera setting is adjusted based at least in part on an output of an orientation determination device integrated into or otherwise associated with the hand-held device.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the orientation determination device comprises one or more gyroscopes integrated into the hand-held device.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein the camera setting is adjusted based at least in part on an output of an image processing operation applied to an image generated by the camera.

13. The method of claim 1 wherein the camera setting is adjusted based at least in part on a hybrid combination of an orientation determination operation and an image processing operation.

14. An apparatus for tracking an object of interest, the apparatus comprising:

a hand-held processing device having at least one camera associated therewith, the hand-held device further comprising a processor operative to control the detection of relative movement between the hand-held device and the object of interest, and to adjust at least one setting of the camera so as to maintain a desired framing of the object of interest within an image generated by the camera.

15. An article of manufacture comprising a storage medium for storing one or more programs for tracking an object of interest using at least one camera associated with a hand-held processing device, wherein the one or more programs when executed by a processor implement

the steps of:

detecting relative movement between the hand-held device and the object of interest; and

adjusting at least one setting of the camera so as to
5 maintain a desired framing of the object of interest within an image generated by the camera.

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